(a) whether it is a fact that the Information and Broadcasting Ministry is planning to boost the growth of the film industry, through Export Promotion Council for Entertainment Industry; and

(b) if so, by when it would be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Government of India has requested the stakeholders of the entertainment industry on 6th March, 2006 to consider the desirability of setting up of an Export Promotion Council/Forum for the film and television sector in terms of the guidelines of Deptt. of Commerce. As per the guidelines, the EPC/EPF is to be constituted by at least 50% of the exporters representing at least 75% of the value of exports of the film industry in the previous year. Further action would be taken on receipt of proposal from the industry.

Extending coverage of CAS

1737. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to extend the coverage of Conditional Access System to more cities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have reviewed the performance of the existing CAS and the benefits availed by common viewers; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) No decision on extension of Conditional Access System (CAS) scheme to more cities has been taken. However, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been asked to provide its comments on further extension of CAS in Zone-II areas of Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata on the basis of success of CAS scheme in the areas where it is currently under implementation.